

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20
IO-14 ACDA-12 MCT-02 /105 W
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R 311455Z JUL 78
FM USMISSION USBERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7387
AMEMBASSY BONN
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
USMISSION USNATO

UNCLAS USBERLIN 1809

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, AKB, BQG
SUBJECT: TRIAL OF 2 JUNE MOVEMENT DEFENDANTS - 22ND &
23RD SESSIONS

REFS: (A) USBER 1738; (B) USBER 1737

SUMMARY: TRIAL HELD TWO SESSIONS DURING WEEK OF 24 JULY. LAST
TWO DEFENDANTS PRESENT AT SESSIONS WERE EXCLUDED DUE TO THEIR
CREATION OF DISTURBANCES. PRESS INTEREST IN TRIAL IS AT ALL
TIME LOW AS WITNESSED BY FAILURE OF BERLIN PRESS TO REPORT ON
23RD SESSION. END SUMMARY.

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1. THE 22ND AND 23RD SESSIONS OF THE TRIAL WERE HELD ON 25
AND 26 JULY RESPECTIVELY. AS REPORTED REFTEL B, AT 21ST SESSION
COURT COMBINED TILL MEYER'S TRIAL WITH THE MAIN TRIAL.

2. FRITZ TEUFEL AND TILL MEYER WERE THE ONLY ACCUSED
PRESENT AT THE 22ND SESSION. WHEN THEY DISTURBED THE
SESSION (SEE PARA 3 BELOW), THEY TOO WERE EXCLUDED

FOR AN INDEFINITE TIME, AND THE TRIAL CONTINUED WITHOUT ANY OF THE ACCUSED PRESENT.

3. FIVE POLICE OFFICIALS TESTIFIED, FOUR OF THEM ABOUT THE APPREHENSION OF RALF REINDERS, INGE VIETT AND JULIANE PLAMBECK IN AN APARTMENT ON BIRKBUSCHSTRASSE IN BERLIN-STEGLITZ IN SEPTEMBER 1975. THE PISTOLS WHICH AT THE TIME WERE FOUND IN THE PARTMENT LOADED AND WITH SAFETY CATCHES RELEASED WERE PRESENTED AS EVIDENCE. THE FIFTH OFFICIAL TESTIFIED ON THE APPREHENSION OF ANDREAS VOGEL WHO AT THE SESSION WERE REPRESENTED ONLY BY A COURT-APPOINTED DEFENSE COUNSEL. WHEN THE COUNSEL STARTED TO QUESTION THE WITNESS, TEUFEL AND MEYER INTERFERED WITH SHOUTS AND WERE EXCLUDED.

4. IN A DISPUTE THEREUPON ARISING BETWEEN DEFENSE COUNSELS PERSONALLY CHOSEN BY THE ACCUSED AND THE COURT-APPOINTED COUNSEL, THE COUNSELS CHOSEN BY THE ACCUSED EXPRESSED THE VIEW THAT THE COURT-APPOINTED COUNSEL, BEING UNFAMILIAR WITH THE "DEFENSE STRATEGY", SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO QUESTION THE WITNESS AS HIS QUESTIONING MIGHT BE DEROGATORY TO THE ACCUSED.

5. THE 23RD SESSION OF THE TRIAL WAS HELD ON 26 JULY. THE BERLIN PRESS CARRIED NO REPEAT NO REPORTS OF THE SESSION.

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6. COMMENT: THE TRIAL HAS DRAGGED ON FOR SEVERAL MONTHS, PREDOMINATED BY DILATORY PROCEDURAL WRANGLING SPICED WITH INTERMITTENT CHILDISH AND DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR BY THE DEFENDANTS. EVEN THAT LATTER BEHAVIOR HAS DRAWN LESS AND LESS PRESS AS WELL AS PUBLIC INTEREST. WITH THE EXCLUSION OF ALL OF THE ACCUSED FROM THE PROCEEDINGS, THE PRESS AND PUBLIC INTEREST HAS DROPPED TO ZERO. WE EXPECT PRESS AND PUBLIC INTEREST TO REMAIN LOW UNTIL THE NEXT DEMONSTRATIVE TERRORIST ACT OCCURS.NELSON

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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